securing at least one rigid point compressive load bearing member between portions of said foam core along areas of anticipated point compression loading in a location to prevent compression of said foam core when a point compressive load is applied to said point compressive load bearing members.

22. The method according to claim 21 further comprising the step of selecting a material for said point compressive load bearing member from the group consisting of composite material, steel, aluminum and a metal alloy.

23. The method according to claim 21 further comprising the step of forming at a periphery of said opposing panel surfaces a plurality of fabric tabs attached to at least one of said first and second fabric layers.

24. The method according to claim 21 further comprising the step of laminating said panel into a composite boat hull to form a transom.

25. The method according to claim 21 further comprising the step of positioning said rigid point compressive load bearing member in a location selected from the group consisting of between said first and said second fabric layer, and within an elongated channel defined in one of said opposing panel surfaces.

26. The method according to claim 25 wherein said elongated channel has a cross-sectional profile that matches a cross-sectional profile of said rigid point compressive load bearing member.

27. The method according to claim 26 further comprising the step of forming said rigid point compressive load bearing member from a structural foam with an outer fabric layer.

28. The method according to claim 27 further comprising the step of applying resin to mating surfaces of the rigid point compressive load bearing member and said elongated channel prior to positioning said rigid point compressive load bearing member in said channel.

29. The method according to claim 28 further comprising the step of forming fabric flaps on said rigid point compressive load bearing member and applying resin to said flaps and a flap mating portion of said panel surface to bond said flaps to said panel.

30. The method according to claim 25 further comprising the step of injecting a curable structural foam in a space between said opposing panel surfaces while constraining the first and second fabric layers from movement so as to form said foam core.

31. The method according to claim 30, further comprising the step of constraining said foam under a molding pressure selected to cause said foam to penetrate only partially through an inner thickness of said first and second fabric layers so as to leave an outer exposed portion of said fabric layer free of said structural foam.

32. The method according to claim 30 further comprising the step of attaching a non-woven fabric layer to a reinforcing fabric layer to form each of said first and second fabric layers

33. The method according to claim 32 further comprising the step of arranging said first and second fabric layers so that said reinforcing fabric layer forms an outer panel surface and said non-woven fabric layer forms an inner panel surface.

34. The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of selecting said reinforcing fabric layer from the group consisting of fiberglass, carbon fibers, aramid fibers, linear polyurethane fibers, polypropylene fibers, and polyester.

35. The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of selecting the non-woven fabric layer from the group consisting of polyester staple mat, glass fiber mat, or other organic and inorganic fiber mats and fabrics.

36. The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of selecting the non-woven fabric layer from the group consisting of continuous thermoplastic fiber, needle punched to form a felt-like fabric.

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Respectfully submitted,

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